

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13  
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-06  
OMB-01 L-03 AID-05 DODE-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01 H-02 /071 W  
-----252139Z 041671 /75-61

P 252010Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3895

UNCLAS LA PAZ 0672

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR BL

SUBJ: MAJOR REVISIONS IN BOLIVIA'S NARCOTIC'S LAW

REF: A. 76 LA PAZ 10011, B. 76 LA PAZ 9843

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF DECREE-LAW 14203 CONTAINING THE REVISED NARCOTICS CONTROL LAW. (THE DECREE HAS NOT YET BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE AND IS STILL NOT IN FORCE.) AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IS THE REDUCTION OF THE JAIL SENTENCE FOR SIMPLE POSSESSION FROM 10-15 YEARS TO 2-8 YEARS AND THE APPLICATION OF THE CONDITIONAL LIBERTY PROVISION OF THE PENAL CODE TO NARCOTICS OFFENDERS. (CONVICTED PERSONS MAY BE RELEASED FOR GOOD BEHAVIOR AFTER COMPLETING TWO THIRDS OF THEIR SENTENCES. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER SUCH PAROLE STATUS WILL PERMIT DEPARTURE FROM THE COUNTRY.) PENALTIES FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF OR TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS IN MOST INSTANCES HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED AND IN SOME HAVE EVEN BEEN STIFFENED, WITH THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE FOR THE MOST HEINOUS DRUG RELATED OFFENSES REMAINING TWENTY-FIVE YEAR INCARCERATION. JUDICIAL PROCEDURES FOR TRIALS HAVE BEEN SIMPLIFIED WITH THE ELIMINATION OF THE FIRST OR "SUMARIO" TRIAL STAGE (SOMEWHAT AKIN TO OUR GRAND JURY PROCEDURE) AND TIME FRAMES FOR DISTINCT TRIAL STAGES HAVE BEEN STIPULATED. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CARRYING OUT THE GOB POLICY OF GRADUAL REDUCTION OF COCA PRODUCTION AND SUBSTITUTION WITH OTHER CROPS WILL

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BE SHARED BY THE NATIONAL DIRECTORATE FOR CONTROL OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES (DNSP), THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND CAMPESINO AFFAIRS (MINAG). A TECHNICAL COMMISSION COMPOSED OF DNSP AND MINAG OFFICIALS IS CHARGED WITH ELABORATING AN ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN FOR AN AGENCY TO CREATE AND EXECUTE AN INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR COCA PRODUCING AREAS TO BE PRESENTED TO CONEPLAN (THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE) WITHIN SIXTY DAYS OF THE

NARCOTICS LAW'S PROMULGATION.

2. SINCE DEPARTMENT IS ALREADY IN POSSESSION OF THE TEXT OF THE  
REVISED LAW, EMBASSY WILL WAIT UNTIL IT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE  
OFFICIAL GAZETTE TO POUCH PROMULGATED COPY.

STEDMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW, NARCOTICS, AMENDMENTS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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